

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

ER IF IT IS TRUE?

Plan Put Out for Preventing
Reduction in Wages.
VOKE THE SHERMAN LAW
Outlines Policy to Be Per-
sued Against Certain
Employers.

tion, May 17.—The following is printed in an evening paper: "The Bureau of Foreign Economic Commerce to buy itself investigating the affairs of manufacturers who reduce their wages on account of tariff rates, but the Department of Justice is to get into the matter. Criminal actions, with possible jail sentences, are ordered in all cases where anyone a combination or conspiracy to reduce wages is found. If the free trade or commerce is affected the case can be brought under Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Senator Charles Williams is authorized to report that this policy will be followed. It is probable the information came even from the Bureau of Manufacturers than did the de-

of Secretary Redfield that the
of Foreign and Domestic Com-
would investigate the books of
industries that reduce wages.
nator pointed out that the Sher-
w had been used against labor-
for combining to secure in-
in wages, and that it was only
w to turn and use it against the
ers who combined to depress
It is understood that special
of the Department of Justice
operate with agents of the Bu-

Foreign and Domestic Com-
merce in inquiring into the facts in in-
where there is any reason to
a combination exists."

PAIGN OF DESTRUCTION.

Lake City, May 17.—The Master
s' Exchange has instituted a war
termination on the building trades.
The exchange decided that wages should
be reduced. Four of the crafts and se-
crenances during March and April.
When these men appeared on the
May 1 they were informed that
ould not go to work unless they
d a reduced scale. The Painters,

ral Iron Workers, Sheet Metal
ers, and Brick Layers' Unions im-
ply quit work. In the case of the
s there were many independent
members of the Master-Build-
exchange that are paying the in-
wage scale. A serious condition
so far as the electrical workers
acorned, and unions an agreement
a reached, however, that in this
will be called out. The brewers
seeking an increase of 25 cents
and a compromise offer has been
ated. The general feeling in the
ing trade, however, is that the dif-
ference will be harmoniously settled.

Washington, May 17.—Representative of Pennsylvania has introduced a bill in Congress for the betterment of conditions among government workmen. The bill fixes \$2 a day for men and \$1.50 a day for women as the minimum wage for all employees of the government, except those in the Canal Zone.

Philippine Islands. The low age fixed at fourteen years. No wonder that age could be employed by the government if the bill becomes law. All existing rates of pay established by law at less than the rates stated will be increased to meet the requirements of the proposed bill. Not only will government employees' ages and wages have to conform with the minimum scale, but contracts on government work would have

which a bond that the provisions of which would be observed in the making of articles to be used by the government. This bill will be considered by the Labor Committee when it is finally acted.

TO INVOKE REFERENDUM.

St. Louis, May 17.—It is announced as a result of a conference of rail-

If 5 per cent of the voters in congressional districts of this size sign the petition, the law will be void until it can be submitted to a popular vote in 1914. The full crew law states that on every passenger train or more coaches there must be at least three brakemen and on every freight of forty or more cars there must be at least three brakemen. The railroad asserts that compliance with the law would cost the Missouri Pacific an additional \$700,000 per year.

ISTS ON INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 17.—Senator Kern is working to secure the passage of a resolution in the Senate authorizing a full investigation of the coal industry which existed and now exists in the West in coal mining districts. The state and mining operators of that section together with Senators Coffey and Senator Clifton, declares in view of the publicity given the coal to investigate he will not oppose the passage of the resolution, but he wants to amend the resolution. His motion has been submitted to Senator to assist him in presenting the case to the Senate.

CARMINE ON STRIKE

ington, W. Va., May 17.—Because men of their members, who recanted the "fiery roller" religious which requires that its affiliates draw their membership from all organizations, has resulted in a in the local shops of the Chem-

the Carmen's Union who joined the
Robbers' sent back their cards
to the union's organization, and the
union demanded they return to him
or be discharged. The strike is to
be the demands.

INTERIORS WIN UNION SHOP.

Memphis, Tenn., May 12.—After a long
fight, the union has won the right to
have the union shop.

to the past of the north. It has been obtained. This is the first in the history of Nashville that the painting painters have agreed to employ but union men, and this decision means that the organization, which was near its maximum strength, will have a 100 per cent organization.

BALTIMORE MACHINISTS OUT.
BALTIMORE, Md., May 11.—Eight hundred machinists, representing 113 shops, went on strike recently because their demand for an eight-hour workday was not met. This campaign for a shorter day has been on for a number of days.